

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for dividing a print task into a plurality of proportional modified print tasks, said method comprising the following acts:

sending a print task from an application executing on a computing device to a driver on said computing device;

converting said print task to a printer-specific print task with said driver;

sending said printer-specific print task to a spooler on said computing device;

sending said printer-specific print task from said spooler to a non-driver, print processor on said computing device;

~~sending~~ receiving print task modification commands ~~to~~ at said non-driver print processor;

determining individual printer capabilities for a plurality of printers, wherein said capabilities relate to at least one of a printer speed, a printer availability and a printer media capacity; and

dividing said printer-specific print task into a plurality of modified print tasks with said non-driver print processor on said computing device, wherein the size of each of said modified print tasks is proportional to the capabilities of one of said plurality of printers to which said print task is associated.

2 (original). The method of claim 1 wherein said sending said print task modification commands comprises reading command data from a configuration file.

3 (original). The method of claim 1 further comprising the act of prompting a user for print task modification commands.

4 (canceled).

5 (previously amended). The method of claim 3 wherein said prompting is driver-based.

6. (previously amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the size of each of said modified print tasks is primarily proportional to the speed of the printer associated with the print task.

7. (previously amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said dividing comprises job splitting.

8 (previously amended). The method of claim 1 wherein said dividing comprises copy splitting.

9 (previously amended). The method of claim 1 wherein said dividing comprises a combination of copy splitting and job splitting.

10 (previously amended). The method of claim 1 further comprising the act of distributing said plurality of modified print tasks to said plurality of printers.

11 (original). The method of claim 1 wherein said print task is a printer-ready file.

12 (original). The method of claim 1 wherein said print task is journalled printer data.

13 (currently amended). A post-driver print processor capable of modifying a print task, after driver processing, according to print task modification commands, said print processor comprising:

a spooler interface for receiving a print task from a spooler, wherein said spooler and said spooler interface reside on an end-user computing device;

a command interface on said end-user computing device, said command interface for receiving a print task modification command from a user at said end-user computing device;

a divider, on said end-user computing device, said divider for dividing said print task according to said print task modification command, after a driver has processed said print task, thereby creating a plurality of modified print tasks wherein the size of each of said modified print tasks is proportional at least one of a printer speed, printer availability and a printer media capacity for a printer associated with said modified print task; and

an output, on said end-user computing device, said output for sending at least one of said plurality of modified print tasks to the printer associated with said modified print task.

14 (previously amended). The print processor of claim 13 wherein said command interface receives print task modification commands independently of said spooler interface for receiving a print task.

15 (previously amended). The print processor of claim 13 wherein said command interface is a dialog box.

16 (previously amended). The print processor of claim 13 wherein said command interface prompts a user for job splitting parameters.

17 (previously amended). The print processor of claim 13 wherein said command interface prompts a user for copy splitting parameters.

18 (previously amended). The print processor of claim 13 wherein said command interface prompts a user for copy splitting and job splitting parameters.

19 (previously amended). The print processor of claim 13 wherein said command interface prompts a user for multiple printer selection.

20 (currently amended). A computer readable medium comprising computer executable instructions for modifying a print task at an end-user computing device with a post-driver print processor, said instructions comprising the acts of:

receiving a printer-driver-converted print task at a print processor on said end-user computing device, said printer-driver-converted print task being received from a spooler;

receiving print task modification commands at said print processor on said end-user computing device; and

dividing said printer-driver-converted print task into a plurality of modified print tasks with said print processor on said end-user computing device, wherein the size of each of said modified print tasks is proportional to at least one of a printer speed, a printer availability and a printer media capacity for a printer associated with each of said modified print tasks.

21. (canceled)

22 (currently amended). A method for modifying a print task with a print processor on an end-user computing device, said method comprising the acts of:

sending a print task to a driver on said end-user computing device;

converting said print task with said driver on said end-user computing device;

prompting a user for print task modification commands on said end-user computing device;

receiving said print task modification commands through a user interface on said end-user computing device;

creating a spool file for said converted print task on said end-user computing device;

sending said spool file to a spooler on said end-user computing device;

spooling said spool file to a modifying non-driver print processor on said end-user computing device; and

modifying said spool file according to said print task modification commands on said end-user computing device, after said converting by said driver, thereby creating a plurality of modified print tasks, wherein the size of each of said modified print task is proportional to at least one of a printer speed, a printer availability and a printer media capacity for a printer with which each of said modified print tasks is associated.

23 (canceled).